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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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June 27, 1950

UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD INTER-AMERICAN MILITARY COLLABORATION

To

Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions in the Other American Republics.

Sirs:

Attached you will find a copy of a Report of the National Security Council entitled "United States Policy Toward Inter-American Military Collaboration". The paper is designated by the number NSC-56/2.

The importance of this paper needs no comment. It constitutes a thorough reappraisal of the problems of military collaboration with the other American republics. It is the first such paper since the approval by the President in 1945 of the document known as SWNCC 4/10, which enunciated the policy of arms standardization and advocated a program for the transfer of military equipment to the other American republics for that purpose.

The policies contained in this document are approved governmental policies, and the President has directed that these policies be implemented by all appropriate executive departments and agencies of the United States Government under the coordination of the Secretary of State. It is desired that the Chiefs of Diplomatic Mission in the other American republics be prepared, within their responsibilities, likewise to coordinate the activities of representatives of the Departments of State and Defense within their respective countries, reporting promptly to the Department any problems requiring attention in Washington. Particular importance is placed upon the provisions in the attached document for a continuing consultation and collaboration between representatives of the Departments of State and Defense in the implementation of this program. The achievement of this collaboration will require a positive effort by all officers concerned, in order that full consideration may be given to the various political, economic and military aspects of problems of military collaboration.

Please give this instruction and its attachment your personal attention and inform the Department of any fact or situation within your purview which you believe deserves special consideration at this time in the implementation of the policy outlined in NSC-56/2.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

WILLARD F. BARBER
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Inter-American Affairs

Enclosure:

Copy of NSC-56/2